

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 16 2007



**VESUVIUS USA  
RIDC PARK WEST  
250 PARK WEST DRIVE  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15275  
(412) 429-1800 FAX: (412) 429-3448**

Total Pages: 7  
(Including cover)

**TO : Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop: AMENDMENT  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**  
**FAX : 571-273-8300**  
**ART UNIT : 1725**  
**EXAMINER : LEN TRAN**  
**FROM : Thomas Dunford - Vesuvius CR - Legal Dept.**  
**DATE : April 6, 2007**  
**SUBJECT : AMENDMENT REPLY FOR  
US APPLICATION NO.: 10/565,480  
FILED: JANUARY 20, 2006  
INVENTOR: MUTSAARTS  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 1446 US**

The following documents are being transmitted herewith as an  
AMENDMENT REPLY to the USPTO Office Action dated 2/23/2007  
for the subject U.S. Patent Application:

-1 PAGE - FAX COVER SHEET

-1 PAGE - TRANSMITTAL FORM (PTO/SB/21) WITH CERTIFICATE OF  
TRANSMISSION

-5 PAGES - AMENDMENT REPLY DOCUMENTS

Respectfully,

Thomas C. Dunford  
Vesuvius Crucible Legal Department

This communication is intended for the use of the addressee(s) so named above and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient(s), please note that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify this office immediately by telephone (collect) and return the original message to us at the above address via the U.S. Postal Service. Thank you.

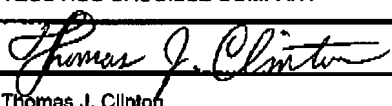
PTO/SB/21 (04-07)

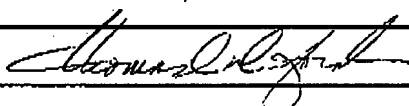
Approved for use through 09/30/2007. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/565,480	<b>RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER  APR 16 2007</b>
	Filing Date	January 20, 2006	
	First Named Inventor	MUTSAARTS	
	Art Unit	1725	
	Examiner Name	TRAN, LEN	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	6	Attorney Docket Number	1446 US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Remarks</div>	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT</b>		
Firm Name	VESUVIUS CRUCIBLE COMPANY	
Signature		
Printed name	Thomas J. Clinton	
Date	APRIL 16, 2007	Reg. No. 40,561

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING		
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:		
Signature		
Typed or printed name	Thomas C. Dunford	Date APRIL 16, 2007

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Apr. 16. 2007 1:25PM

No. 9943 P. 3

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APR 16 2007

In re Application of	MUTSAARTS
Title	METHOD OF DETERMINING REUSE OR DISPOSAL OF A REFRACTORY PLATE AND DEVICE THEREFOR
Serial Number	10/565,480
Filing Date	20 Jan 2006
Art Unit	1725
Examiner	Len Tran
Attorney Docket No.	1446 US

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

To: Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Office Action mailed 23 February 2007, Applicant requests early and favorable action on pending claims 12-22.